Boston Public Library

We Are Pride

Books about the LGBTQ+ Experience

Booklist for Children, Teens, and Adults | 2017

Visit www.bpl.org/pride for Boston Public Library Pride Month programming, additional LGBTQ+ booklists, and LGBTQ+ youth & adult resources.

available in e-book

available in audiobook

award winner

graphic novel

CHILDREN

Home at Last

By Vera B. Williams, illus. Chris Raschka

After Daddy Rich and Daddy Albert adopt Lester from his foster home, Lester can't fall asleep in his new bed. Though his parents do everything they can to make him feel safe and loved, he still worries, until the family dog makes him feel at home.

J PICTURE WILLIAMS V

Introducing Teddy

By Jess Walton, illus. Dougal MacPherson

Errol doesn't know why his teddy bear is sad, until he learns his teddy is actually Tilly the Teddy and doesn't want to be known as Thomas. This sweet story about gender and friendship imparts a message of love and acceptance.

J PICTURE WALTON J

Lily and Dunkin

By Donna Gephart

Though 13-year-old Lily's family and best friend know that she is a girl, everyone else insists on calling her Tim. When a new boy who also hates his birth name transfers to her class, the two forge a friendship and try to establish new identities that fit who they truly are.

J FICTION GEPHART D

Lumberjanes, volumes 3–5

By Noelle Stevenson, Shannon Watters, Grace Ellis, and Brooke Allen

A diverse group of campers and their hapless counselor embark on a series of supernatural adventures. This warm-hearted comic reminds readers that all girls, no matter their backgrounds, can choose to identify as "Hardcore Lady Types."

J GRAPHIC LUMBERJA

One of a Kind, Like Me / Único Como Yo

By Laurin Mayeno, illus. Robert Liu-Trujillo

Danny wants to be a princess in his school parade, and he and his mother are determined to find the perfect costume. The thrift store is their last hope—can Danny find his dream dress before the shop closes?

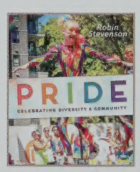
J PICTURE MAYENO L

The Other Boy

By M. G. Hennessey, illus. Sfé R. Monster

Shane Woods is 12 years old and finally starting testosterone. But he isn't out to his classmates, and when a bully finds information from his old school that could reveal his secret, Shane must show everyone he's still the same boy he was before.

J FICTION HENNESSE M



Pride: Celebrating Diversity and Community

By Robin Stevenson

What is the history of Pride? What does Pride mean to the people who celebrate it? This nonfiction book incorporates photographs and accessible explanations of queer identities as it looks at the evolution of Pride events, from the Stonewall riots to the present.

J HQ76.965.G38 S74 2016x

Princess Princess Ever After

By Katie O'Neill

Timid Princess Sadie doesn't really mind being locked up in her tower: she has her pet dragon, and nobody makes fun of her. But when the prince who frees her turns out to be a princess, they both find themselves on an adventure that will reveal their true strength.

J GRAPHIC PRINCESS PRINCESS

Worm Loves Worm

By J. J. Austrian, illus. Mike Curato

Worm and Worm are getting married, but their friends have some questions about who is the bride and who is the groom. All that matters, it turns out, is that Worm loves Worm.

J PICTURE AUSTRIAN J

TEEN

The ABC's of LGBT+

By Ashley Mardell

Whether you're on the LGBTQ+ spectrum or you're a straight ally, this book gives you the lowdown on the rainbow of orientations, genders, and gender expressions. Employing stories from queer people, this guide is informational yet personal.

TEEN HQ73 .M37 2016x

The Abyss Surrounds Us

By Emily Skrutskie

Cassandra Leung has been preparing to train sea monsters since she could walk, but her dream is cut short when the pirate queen Santa Elena captures her. Once aboard, romance unexpectedly blooms with one of the crew members.

TEEN SCIFI FANTASY SKRUTSKI E

As I Descended

By Robin Talley

Maria and Lily put the "power" in power couple when they sabotage a classmate at their boarding school to put Maria in the lead for a prestigious scholarship. But the forces they unleash are wilder than they predicted. No one is safe in this retelling of *Macbeth*.

TEEN MYSTERY TALLEY R

Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen

By Jazz Jennings

At 5 years old, Jazz Jennings landed in the public eye when she transitioned to life as a girl. Ten years later, Jazz pens a memoir about her experiences, place in the transgender community, and life as a teenager.

TEEN BIOG HQ77.8 .J46 2016x

Georgia Peaches and Other Forbidden Fruit

By Jaye Robin Brown

Jo is out and proud, but after her evangelist father moves the family to Georgia, she reluctantly promises to keep her sexuality under wraps. But falling in love with the sister of her new friend complicates things—is the possibility of true love worth breaking her promise?

TEEN FICTION BROWN J

Girl Mans Up

By M-E Girard

Pen, a 16-year-old whose gender identity doesn't adhere to the binary, struggles to find acceptance in the gritty world of high school. A healthy romantic relationship helps her along the way.

TEEN FICTION GIRARD M

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If I Was Your Girl

By Meredith Russo

When new girl Amanda meets Grant, she finds herself wanting to tell him that she used to be Andrew. Written by a trans woman for both trans and cis readers, this idyllic coming-of-age story is thought provoking, emotional, and honest.

TEEN FICTION RUSSO M

Labyrinth Lost

By Zoraida Córdova

Alejandra hates her magic. When she tries to rid herself of her power, she accidentally sends her family to the world of Los Lagos. Together with Nova, a brujo boy she can't trust, and Rishi, her best friend and longtime crush, she sets out to rescue her family.

TEEN SCIFI FANTASY CORDOVA Z

LGBTQ+ Athletes Claim the Field: Striving for Equality

By Kirstin Cronn-Mills

Lesbian, gay, transgender, intersex, and queer athletes face unique challenges, both on and off the field. Through coming out stories, details of pioneering LGBTQ+ players, and pictures, this book provides hope for queer teens and athletes alike.

TEEN GV708.8 .C76 2017

Spy Stuff

By Matthew Metzger

Anton thought that being trans meant ruling out romance, so he's shocked when seemingly straight Jude Kalinowski asks him out. Can he reveal his true self to Jude and still keep the boyfriend he never thought he'd have?

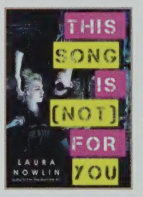
TEEN FICTION METZGER M

Symptoms of Being Human

By Jeff Garvin

With gender-fluid Riley's father running for reelection, coming out right now is not a good idea. But when Riley starts an anonymous blog, someone discovers Riley's identity and threatens to tell.

TEEN FICTION GARVIN J



This Song Is (Not) for You

By Laura Nowlin

When best friends Ramona and Sam meet Tom, he fits into their band—and their lives—perfectly. But does Tom really love them, even though he never feels sexual attraction? And how can they have a relationship without leaving anyone out?

TEEN FICTION NOWLIN L

We Are the Ants

By Shaun David Hutchinson

Henry Denton has been periodically abducted by aliens throughout his youth. Still reeling from the suicide of his boyfriend, he now has to make a big decision: should he push a button to save the planet from ending?

TEEN FICTION HUTCHINS S

When the Moon Was Ours

By Anna-Marie McLemore

In this modern fairytale, Samir, a Pakistani American trans boy, and his inseparable best friend Miel fight to protect the mysterious roses that grow from Miel's wrists from the diabolical Bonner sisters, who are convinced that these flowers can make people fall in love.

TEEN FICTION MCLEMORE A

You Know Me Well

By Nina LaCour and David Levithan

Over the course of San Francisco's Pride Week, Kate chases a romance with a girl who seems too perfect to be real, while Mark tries to get over the best friend he's loved for years.

TEEN FICTION LACOUR N

Zodiac Starforce: By the Power of Astra

By Kevin Panetta

When their leader becomes infected by an evil force from another dimension, a squad of magical teen girls comes out of retirement to save her from being consumed by darkness.

GRAPHIC ZODIAC STARFORCE

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

Accepted: How the First Gay Superstar Changed WWE

By Pat Patterson and Bertrand Hébert

Pat Patterson tells the story of how he learned English, found love with his partner Louie, came up in the ranks to wrestle with greats like André the Giant, and came out publicly in 2014.

GV1196.P38 A3 2016x

The Imitation Game: Alan Turing Decoded

By Jim Ottaviani, illus. Leland Purvis

Ottaviani and Purvis chronicle the life of Alan Turing, a brilliant mathematician who made great contributions to both his country and computer science but was convicted of "gross indecency" and forced to submit to chemical castration.

GRAPHIC IMITATIO GAME

Love Wins: The Lovers and Lawyers Who Fought the Landmark Case for Marriage Equality

By Debbie Cenziper & Jim Obergefell

This book chronicles the lovers, lawyers, judges, and activists behind the Supreme Court case that led to one of the most important civil rights victories in decades—the legalization of same-sex marriage.

BIOG KF229.O24 C46 2016

Saving Alex: When I Was Fifteen I Told My Mormon Parents I Was Gay, and That's When My Nightmare Began

By Alex Cooper and Joanna Brooks

After she came out as gay at age 15, Alex's devout Mormon family sent her to an abusive home that promised to convert her but only caused trauma. With support from her Gay-Straight Alliance and an LGBTQ lawyer, she reunited with her family on her own terms.

BIOG BX8695.C57 A3 2016

Tranny: Confessions of Punk Rock's Most Infamous Anarchist Sellout

By Laura Jane Grace

Laura Jane Grace, the provocative trans advocate and lead singer of the punk rock band Against Me!, provides a searing account of her music career and search for identity, while using the anti-trans slur as a reminder of her own internalized transphobia.

BIOG ML420.G7835 A3 2016

A Two-Spirit Journey: The Autobiography of a Lesbian Ojibwa-Cree Elder

By Ma-Nee Chacaby

Ma-Nee Chacaby recounts her difficult childhood, her work as a counselor, foster mother, and gay rights advocate, and her journey of recovery and acceptance as an Ojibwa-Cree lesbian.

BIOG HQ75.4.C53 A3 2016x

EXPRESSIONS

5 Guys Chillin'

By Peter Darney

Using dialogue which he adapted from over fifty hours of interviews, playwright Darney constructs a challenging and, at times, painful reflection on the role of party drugs and dating apps in the life of modern urban gay men.

Available as e-book on Hoopla

Collected Poems: 1950–2012

By Adrienne Rich

Perhaps the most famous lesbian poet since Sappho, Adrienne Rich published more than twenty books of poetry over the course of her six-decade career and was the recipient of countless awards.

PS3535 .I233 2016

IRL

By Tommy Pico

A queer boy figures out his impulses, desires, and history as an indigenous person in this summertime coming-of-age poem composed as a long text message.

PS3616.I26 I75 2016x

Purple Prose: Bisexuality in Britain

Edited by Kate Harrad

Written for and by bisexuals in the UK but valuable to any reader, this accessible and diverse collection of interviews, essays, poems, and commentary delves into almost all aspects of bisexuality, including coping with bi erasure, coming out, and navigating relationships.

HQ74.2.G7 P87 2016

When the Chant Comes

By Kay Ulanday Barrett

Kay Barrett, a self-identified "disabled Pilipinx-Amerikan transgender queer," charts his experiences as a trans man of color: ". . . we are brown and trans and queer and out / and we've been told too many times that all of those / cannot belong all at once . . ."

PS3602.A7775 W54 2016x

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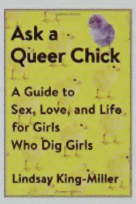
graphic novel

NONFICTION



Ask a Queer Chick: A Guide to Sex, Love, and Life for Girls Who Dig Girls

By Lindsay King-Miller

Lindsay King-Miller offers serious advice with a humorous twist on life, love, and lust culled from Ask a Queer Chick, an online, trans-inclusive advice column.

HQ75.5 .K56 2016

Ask Me About Polyamory: The Best of Kimchi Cuddles

By Tikva Wolf

Colorful doodles, diverse people and relationship styles, and respectful language come together to create accessible relationship advice for those who are interested in polyamory.

GRAPHIC HQ980 .W65 2016x

Girls Will Be Boys: Cross-Dressed Women, Lesbians, and American Cinema, 1908–1934

By Laura Horak

Drawing on vintage images, Horak examines the roles of cross-dressing women in cinema during the early 1900s and the key role cinema played in the representation of lesbian identity.

PN1995.9.I43 H67 2016

Homintern: How Gay Culture Liberated the Modern World

By Gregory Woods

Woods provides an intelligent look at how queer culture permeated and influenced the twentieth century's high culture of arts, dance, and literature.

HQ75.15 .W66 2016

Journey to Same-Sex Parenthood: Firsthand Advice, Tips, and Stories from Lesbian and Gay Couples

By Eric Rosswood

A guide for prospective LGBTQ+ parents that discusses the pros, cons, and legal issues of five family-building options: adoption, foster care, assisted reproduction, surrogacy, and co-parenting.

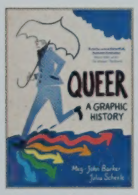
HQ75.27 .R673 2016x

Not Straight, Not White: Black Gay Men from the March on Washington to the AIDS Crisis

By Kevin J. Mumford

From well-known black gay activists like James Baldwin and Bayard Rustin to lesser-known figures, Mumford chronicles the lives and fights of intersectional activists battling against being triply pathologized as black men, as gay men, and as black gay men.

HQ76.27.A37 M86 2016



Queer: A Graphic History

By Meg-John Barker, illus. Julia Scheele

With sharp graphics and plain language, this accessible, illustrated work walks readers through LGBTQ+ history, examines gender and sexuality, and explores the origins and development of queer theories, while pulling in perspectives from various philosophers, activists, and pop culture.

GRAPHIC HQ76.25 .B373 2016x

Queer Virtue: What LGBTQ People Know About Life and Love and How It Can Revitalize Christianity

By Elizabeth M. Edman

Elizabeth M. Edman, a lesbian Episcopal priest, theorizes that queer life, culture, and love are not so different from some of the tenets of Christianity and that Christians can learn a lot from the LGBTQ+ community.

BT83.65 .E36 2016

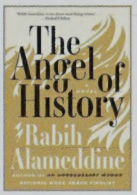
The Remedy: Queer and Trans Voices on Health and Health Care

Edited by Zena Sharman

For queer and trans people, doctor visits can be a landmine of misunderstandings that end up precluding proper medical care. Through prose, poetry, comics, and other forms of expression, queer and trans folks share their experiences with the medical world.

RA564.9.H65 R44 2016x

FICTION



The Angel of History

By Rabih Alameddine

Jacob, a Yemeni-born gay man who lived through San Francisco's AIDS epidemic, looks back on his international upbringing as he sits in the waiting room of a psych ward and Satan and Death give him their two cents.

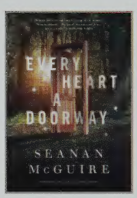
FICTION ALAMEDDI R

Bad Boy

By Elliot Wake

Renard Grant has been living a double life: publicly, he's a transgender vlog star. Secretly, he's a member of Black Iris, a vigilante group that puts misogynists and sexual predators in their place. When a Black Iris job goes badly wrong, Ren must decide what kind of man he's going to be.

FICTION WAKE E



Every Heart a Doorway

By Seanan McGuire

There have always been children who vanish into Fairyland, but where do they go when they come back? For Nancy, the answer is Eleanor West's Home for Wayward Children, though she doesn't quite fit in. And then the murders begin . . .

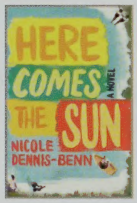
SCIFI FANTASY MCGUIRE S

He's Gone

By Alex Clare

After Detective Inspector Roger Bailley returns to work as Robyn, a toddler is snatched from a shopping center. Robyn must find both the toddler and herself while dealing with the reactions of her police colleagues, the media, and her own daughter.

FICTION CLARE A



Here Comes the Sun

By Nicole Dennis-Benn

This debut novel examines the intersectionality of religion, homophobia, race, poverty, and education in one small Jamaican village where Margot will do anything to take care of her younger sister.

FICTION DENNISB N

Juliet Takes a Breath

By Gabby Rivera

Juliet leaves the Bronx for Portland, Oregon, where she interns with the author of her favorite feminist book. Over the course of one wild summer, she takes on the world in a quest to figure out her identity as a Puerto Rican lesbian.

FICTION RIVERA G

A Kind of Justice

By Renee James

Trans hairdresser Bobbi Logan has enough on her plate before hateful Detective Wilkins accuses her of the five-year-old revenge killing of an abusive murderer and rapist. He soon learns there's more to the case, and Bobbi, than he thought.

MYSTERY JAMES R

Kings Rising

By C. S. Pacat

In the final volume of the Captive Prince Trilogy, Damen and Laurent must unite against a common foe, but past deceptions and buried secrets threaten their relationship and their countries' futures.

SCIFI FANTASY PACAT C

Lez Talk: A Collection of Black Lesbian Short Fiction

Edited by S. Andrea Allen and Lauren Cherelle

An anthology of short stories about Black lesbian experiences, including romance, humor, and speculative fiction.

FICTION LEZ TALK

Midnighter, volumes 1–2

By Steve Orlando

Midnighter, an antihero superhero, is here to kick butt, take names, and date dudes. Though his fight scenes aren't for the squeamish, his relationships are real and intimate.

GRAPHIC MIDNIGHT

Necrotech

By K. C. Alexander

In a cyberpunk society, street thug Riko's girlfriend's transformation into a tech-fueled zombie is just the start of a downward spiral in which Riko battles amnesia, struggles to recover her tarnished reputation, and seeks to uncover a massive conspiracy.

SCIFI FANTASY ALEXANDE K

A Thin Bright Line

By Lucy Jane Bledsoe

Lucybelle works for a scientist extracting the first-ever ice cores in Chicago during the Cold War. Forced to keep her personal life hidden, she struggles to do the work she loves and still find love with a new woman who comes into her life.

FICTION BLEDSOE L

Vow of Celibacy

By Erin Judge

After several sexual conquests, Natalie takes a vow of celibacy in order to examine her past relationships and her place in the world as a plus-sized, bisexual fashion designer. Body positive, sex positive, and witty, Natalie is a character you can root for.

FICTION JUDGE E

Wuvable Oaf: Blood and Metal

By Ed Luce

A collection of comics about a large, intimidating-looking man with a soft and lovable side. Each comic is presented as a short story, covering everything from Oaf's childhood to his ongoing search for a man to love in the heavy metal and wrestling communities.

GRAPHIC WUVABLE OAF

ROMANCE AND EROTICA

21 Questions

By Mason Dixon

Kenya is ready to find forever with a financially secure Mrs. Right. Mackenzie is wealthy enough to give Kenya the security she craves, but won't commit; Simone has only her heart, her honesty, and a wealth of ambition. Playing it safe could mean missing out on true love.

FICTION DIXON M

Adulting 101

By Lisa Henry

Nick is an angsty 18-year-old with a boring summer job. Jai is in town to make money to fund his world travels. They fall into a serious case of lust, but as the summer draws to a close, they have to figure out where things are going and whether they're going there together.

Available as e-book on OverDrive and Hoopla

All the Wrong Places

By Ann Gallagher

Semi-pro skateboarder Brennan has just lost girlfriend number three. He heads to the local porn shop for research, when he meets Zafir, a single dad who identifies as asexual. As their feelings for one another intensify, will their asexual bi-romantic love win the day?

Available as e-book on OverDrive and Hoopla

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graphic novel

At All Costs

By Micheala Lynn

At a meeting, wheelchair-using Jess rips into Alex, a doctor, for mocking patients who struggle with pain management. Alex's heartfelt apology leads to friendship and more. But when a freak accident leaves Jess fighting for her life, Alex is faced with the challenge of saving the life of the woman she loves.

FICTION LYNN M

Awkward Silence, volume 5

By Hinako Takanaga

In the final volume of *Awkward Silence*, Tono and his boyfriend Tamiya must confront more obstacles. Will they be able to withstand the looming threat of college entrance exams and the possibility of heading to different schools?

GRAPHIC AWKWARD SILENCE

Behrouz Gets Lucky

By Avery Cassell

Lucky and Behrouz meet up for an OkCupid date, which starts as a series of kinky encounters and quickly transitions into romantic territory. Their graphically erotic and tender love story shows that it's never too late, and you're never too kinky or queer, to find your true love.

FICTION CASSELL A

Gays of Our Lives

By Kris Ripper

Emerson is gay, kinky, and has MS. When he meets Obie, he is forced to come out of his shell, come out of the kink closet, and start coming to terms with his illness. Will Emerson open up enough to let Obie in for real? The first book in the Queers of La Vista series.

Available as e-book on Hoopla

Love on Call

By Radclyffe

Ex-army medic Glenn Archer wants to atone for the lives she's failed to save. Mariana Mateo wants to start a new life without reminders of what she's lost. Working with Glenn in the ER makes Mari remember what desire feels like, but she is determined to hide her feelings.

FICTION RADCLYFF

The Mermaid Murders

By Josh Lanyon

Special Agent Jason West of the FBI's Art Crime Team joins forces with disgraced Agent Sam Kennedy to help capture a serial killer who Sam thought he'd already put behind bars. What starts out as a temporary partnership leads to sparks, and Jason begins to realize that their attraction just might be mutual.

FICTION LANYON J

Once Upon a Time in the Weird West

By Various Authors

Along with the traditional cowboys, outlaws, and sheriffs, the Wild West in this short story collection also has magical gems, automatons, elementals, dinosaurs, mythical beings, and lovers who stay true to their oaths . . . even beyond the grave.

Available as e-book on Hoopla

Rise of the Rain Queen

By Fiona Zedde

After falling in love with the wife of her village's elder, Nyandoro learns that actions can have severe consequences. In this erotic paranormal novel, otherworldly forces pull Ny into a world of ancient and mystical power.

FICTION ZEDDE F

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We Are Pride is a list of recent books for all ages concerning the diverse experiences of the LGBTQ+ community. This inaugural printing is part of the Boston Public Library's annual observance of LGBT Pride Month.